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Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/622,325

Examiner

Allen C. Ho

Applicant(s)

CALDERWOOD ET AL.

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to amendment filed on 07 April 2006.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2,3,7-12 and 16-18.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____. |
| 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____ | 7. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Allowable Subject Matter

1. Claims 2, 3, 7-12, and 16-18 are allowed.
2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

With regard to claim 2, although the prior art discloses a dental radiography positioning system comprising an aimer ring having a ring and a bar slide for alternatively and slidably engaging a posterior imaging bar and an anterior imaging bar, a posterior imaging bar having a posterior aimer ring bar and a posterior imaging platform, a posterior sensor holder having a tab for mounting to the posterior imaging platform, an anterior imaging bar having an anterior aimer ring bar and an anterior imaging platform, and an anterior sensor holder having a tab for mounting to the anterior imaging platform, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest that the posterior imaging bar further comprises an imaging arm supporting the posterior imaging platform and an opposing posterior imaging platform, where the posterior and opposing posterior imaging platforms can each be used for taking upper and lower posterior dental radiographic images as claimed.

With regard to claim 3, although the prior art discloses a dental radiography positioning system comprising an aimer ring having a ring and a bar slide for alternatively and slidably engaging a posterior imaging bar and an anterior imaging bar, a posterior imaging bar having a posterior aimer ring bar and a posterior imaging platform, a posterior sensor holder having a tab for mounting to the posterior imaging platform, an anterior imaging bar having an anterior aimer ring bar and an anterior imaging platform, and an anterior sensor holder having a tab for

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mounting to the anterior imaging platform, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest that the anterior imaging platform has two slotted arms for holding an anterior sensor holder as claimed.

With regard to claims 7-12, although the prior art discloses a dental radiography posterior imaging bar comprising an aimer ring bar, an imaging bar, where the imaging bar has a first posterior imaging platform and a second posterior imaging platform, the first and second posterior imaging platform each having a sensor stop and a sensor holder slot for supporting a sensor holder, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest that the aimer ring bar is perpendicularly elevated from the imaging bar by a pre-determined length as claimed.

With regard to claim 16, although the prior art discloses a dental radiography anterior sensor holder comprising a flexible sleeve and two arms extending from the sleeve, where each arm is slotted for engaging anterior imaging bar, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest that each arm has an I-shaped cross-section as claimed.

With regard to claims 17 and 18, although the prior art discloses a dental radiography anterior imaging system comprising an aimer ring bar supporting an anterior imaging platform, where the anterior imaging platform has two pressure slots for holding an anterior sensor holder and an angled base for positioning a dental sensor for an anterior dental image, where the aimer ring bar has an S-curve to support an aimer ring, and an anterior sensor holder comprising two arms slotted to detachably engage the two pressure slots, the prior art fails to teach or fairly suggest that the anterior sensor holder comprises a flexible sleeve as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue

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fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Allen C. Ho whose telephone number is (571) 272-2491. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward J. Glick can be reached at (571) 272-2490. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Allen C. Ho

Allen C. Ho, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
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12 April 2006